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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 001136

SIPDIS

USUN NEW YORK
STATE FOR CROWE IN IO/PSC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/09/2018
TAGS: KTFN EFIN ETTC PREL PTER IT
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: 1267 DE-LISTING REQUESTS FOR
NADA AND HIMMAT

REF: A. STATE 4740
 1B. ROME 00711

Classified By: Economic Counselor William R. Meara for reasons 1.4(b) a
nd (d).

11. (C) SUMMARY: Post presented reftel A points to
Italian MFA and Treasury officials on the delisting requests
of Youssef Nada and Ali Ghaleb Himmat. The GOI no longer
thinks a USG public statement on Nada's case is necessary,
though it continues to face pressure from his attorney to
support the de-listing request at the 1267 Committee. The
GOI is likely to support Ali Ghaleb Himmat's de-listing,
absent any new derogatory information. END SUMMARY

NADA

12. (C) EconOff delivered reftel demarche to Alberto
Comito of the Italian MFA; Comito said the GOI is in a
difficult position with Nada's request. A Milanese
magistrate found evidence that Nada had links to terrorists,
but his actions were not criminal offenses at the time.
Because he is no longer being prosecuted the GOI feels
pressured to promote Nada's case for de-listing before the
1267 Committee. (Comment: This support will likely be
rendered moot by Russian and UK holds on Nada's de-listing.
End Comment.) Although an Administrative judge could
potentially rule against the MFA for not giving Nada
sufficient support, Comito said the GOI was "quite confident"
in its position. Christina Collura, head of the Financial
Crimes Unit, added that a judicial decision on Nada's
petition might actually help the MFA by better defining its
responsibilities and prerogatives vis a vis Italian citizens.

HIMMAT

13. (C) Collura indicated that based on the Nasreddin and
Nada precedents, the GOI was likely to support Himmat's
de-listing request. (Comment: The new procedures outlined in
reftel B have been operationalized and we can expect the GOI
to oppose continued listing of any Italian national once
charges have been dropped. End comment.) Comito did not
have any new information to share with the USG on Himmat.

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